



Muir Ranger Pledge

With the completion of the pledge you are officially recognized as a John Muir NHS Junior Ranger!

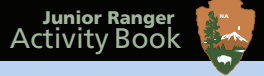
I _____ promise to:
(your name)

- ★ Explore my environment and the world around me
- ★ Learn and respect our nation’s history
- ★ Protect and treasure John Muir National Historic Site and all national parks

Signed _____

Ranger _____





Welcome

John Muir National Historic Site, is the home of the “Father of the National Park Service”. John Muir dedicated his life to saving beautiful, natural spaces. He did this so that people could enjoy them for all time.

As a Junior Ranger, we are taught to Explore, Learn and Protect. John Muir believed in this as well. As an adventurer, he explored places far and wide. As a scientist, he learned about nature. As a conservationist, he protected nature and helped create the National Parks.

In order to complete these activities , you’ll need to find a guide. Your Junior Ranger guide can be a parent, a ranger or another adult who will join you and help you complete the activities.

*Who is your guide?*_____

Complete the activities in this workbook to become a Junior Ranger. Often, answers can be found in the park brochures or with a volunteer or ranger.

Investigative Reporting

Why do people come to John Muir House? In order to understand, pretend that you are investigative reporter. Find two visitors and one Ranger and ask them the following questions.

Visitor 1

Name:_____

Hometown:_____

Why they came today: _____

What John Muir means to him/her: _____

Visitor 2

Name:_____

Hometown:_____

Why they came today: _____

What John Muir means to him/her: _____

Ranger

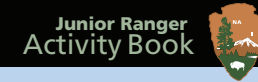
Name:_____

Hometown:_____

His/her favorite part of being a Ranger _____

What John Muir means to him/her: _____





Our National Park Service

Because of the work he did to protect nature, John Muir is called the “Father of the National Park Service”. Using the Arrowhead, the symbol of the National Park Service, draw a line between the images and their correct meaning.



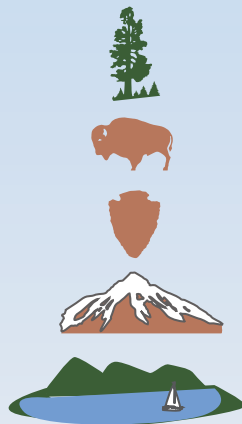
Represents all Lands

Represents all Waters

Represents all Plants

Represents all Animals

Represents all History



Can you think of something you’d like the Park Service to protect today?

Bonus: In your own words, why do you think the Park Service is important?

The John Muir National Historic Site

Visiting the national parks can be a fun experience, but it’s important that we visit in a way that everyone can enjoy them for years to come.

Circle the correct word to complete the blank:

- 1) When you see something interesting in the house, you should_____.
a) Pick it up
b) Play with it
c) Ask a Ranger if you can touch it
- 2) After you’ve eaten your picnic lunch, you should_____ your trash.
a) Throw away
b) Sort and recycle
c) Leave
3. It is_____ okay to feed wild animals your food.
a) Sometimes
b) Never
c) Always
4. When you find a neat rock, you should_____.
a) Throw it
b) Take it home
c) Leave it where it is
5. A good Junior Ranger always_____ history and nature.
a) Avoids
b) Eats
c) Respects



Scavenger Hunt

John Muir's house is full of items that he treasured: paintings, artifacts, books, pictures, tools and more. All of these items meant something to John Muir. Explore his home and find some of these items. Ask a Ranger or a volunteer if you need help.

Find:

Something that was important to John Muir because he was a **writer**. Draw or describe it. (Hint: think objects)

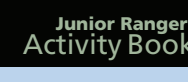
Something that was important to John Muir because he was a **father**. Draw or describe it. (Hint: think photographs)

Flash-Back

Imagine how the ranch looked when Muir lived here. The fields of fruit trees were busy with workers and horse-drawn wagons taking fruit to the railway station. Before the highway was built, the only house around was John Muir's.

Make a sketch of how you think the valley looked in John Muir's time. Go to the bell-tower in the attic to get a good view of the land today. It might help.





Observe a Tree

John Muir said that someone watching a tree learns by listening to what it has to say. Find a tree in the park. Now make a sketch of it.

What are its leaves like?

What is its bark like?

Does it make sounds? Does it smell?

Can you see insects or animals living in it?

John Muir believed in calling everything by its proper name. What is the proper name of your tree? Ask a Ranger if you need help.

Scavenger Hunt

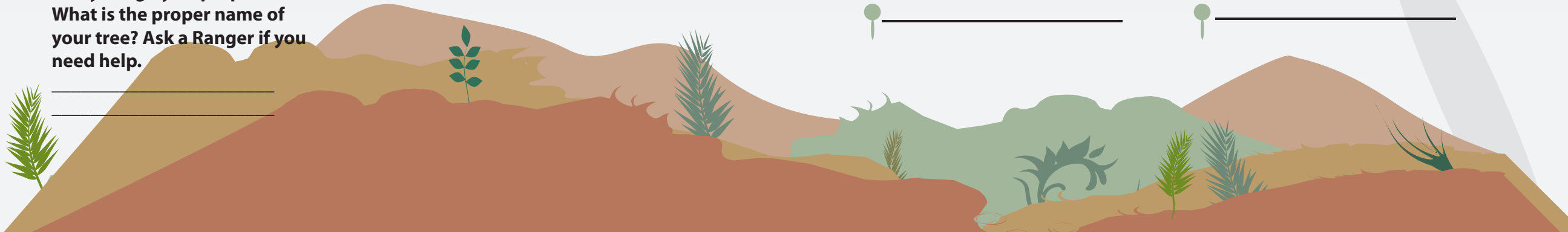
Something that was important to John Muir because he was a **scientist and explorer**. Draw or describe it. (Hint: think painting and objects)

One

While you may think it's wood, it's actually rock from Arizona where Muir spent time in the desert exploring. While he was there, he helped create a national park that bears this rock's name. Look for this rock around the house. What is the name of this rock?

Two

This tool was often used to hunt seal and fish. Muir picked this up in Alaska and kept it to the left of his desk. What is it?



Detective Time

When John Muir spent time in nature, he kept a journal and wrote down this thought. Use the key below to find out what John Muir wrote.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
G F E D C B A Z Y X W V U T S R Q P O N M L K J I H

John Muir said:

"ASYTA NS NZC USMTNGYTO YO ASYTA ZSUC."

What is John Muir trying to say here?

What does this mean to you?

The next time you spend time in nature, think about bringing a journal along to write down your thoughts.

Junior Ranger Journal

John Muir observed nature and recorded what he saw in his journals. Spend some time in the orchards and see what you can find.

Wildlife Observations

Name of Animal: _____

Where was it seen? _____

What was it doing? _____

How many were there? _____

Sketch:

Weather _____ Date _____ Time _____